

At its April 16, meeting, Ms. Sarah LaPlante, Deputy District Ranger, began the meeting with a presentation of the Landscape Assessment Revision. The discussion included the new approach of a theme-based project identification process. Following the presentation, the Collaborative welcomed staff from the Regional Office via videoconference to answer questions regarding the Yosemite Toad and Mountain Yellow-legged Frog Biological Opinion. The Collaborative also reviewed the Ecological Fire and Fuels Strategy outline and discussed the high level of detail it would include. As a part of the ongoing activities, Collaborative members provided updates on grant funds received, ongoing and newly added projects, and work group progress. Members also continued a conversation from the previous Collaborative meeting on defining the term "local", which included discussions of downstream users, investments, and tourist origins. Finally, the group began the initial planning for the February 2016 Science and Monitoring Symposium, and reviewed a draft agenda. The full Collaborative will meet again May 21, 2015.